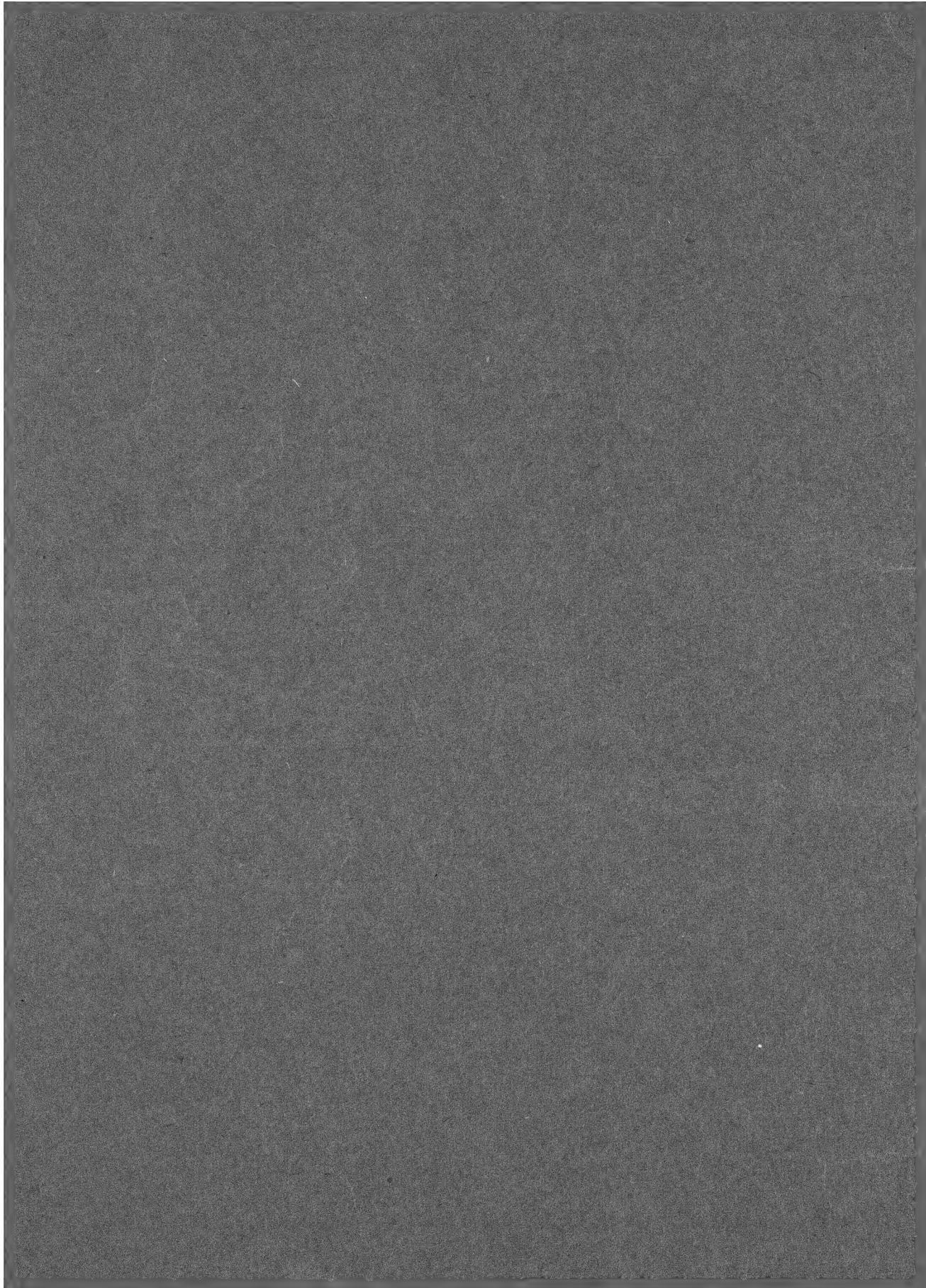


C.P.R.

# 12 CANADIANS

## WHO STARTED ON THE FARM





Tom  
920  
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# TWELVE CANADIANS

*who started on  
the farm*



## ***The Man Behind the Plow***

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We sing about the glories of "The Man Behind the Gun,"  
And the books are full of stories of the wonders he has done ;  
There's something mighty fetching in the flag that's waving high  
That makes us want to "holler" when the boys go marching by ;  
But when the shouting's over, and the fighting's done somehow,  
We find we're still depending on "The Man Behind the Plow."

Mid all the pomp and glory of an army on parade,  
And through the awful blackness that the smoke of battle's made ;  
In halls where jewels glitter, and where the shouting men debate,  
And in all places where the rulers hand out honours to the great ;  
There's not a single person who'd be doing business now,  
Or have medals, if it wasn't for "The Man Behind the Plow."

We're building mighty cities and we're gaining lofty heights,  
We're winning lots of glory, and we're setting things to rights ;  
We're showing all creation how the world's affairs should run,  
Future men will gaze in wonder at the things that we have done ;  
Will they overlook the fellow, just the same as we do now,  
Who's the whole concern's foundation—that's "The Man Behind the Plow."

—*Sam Kiser*

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## *Introduction*

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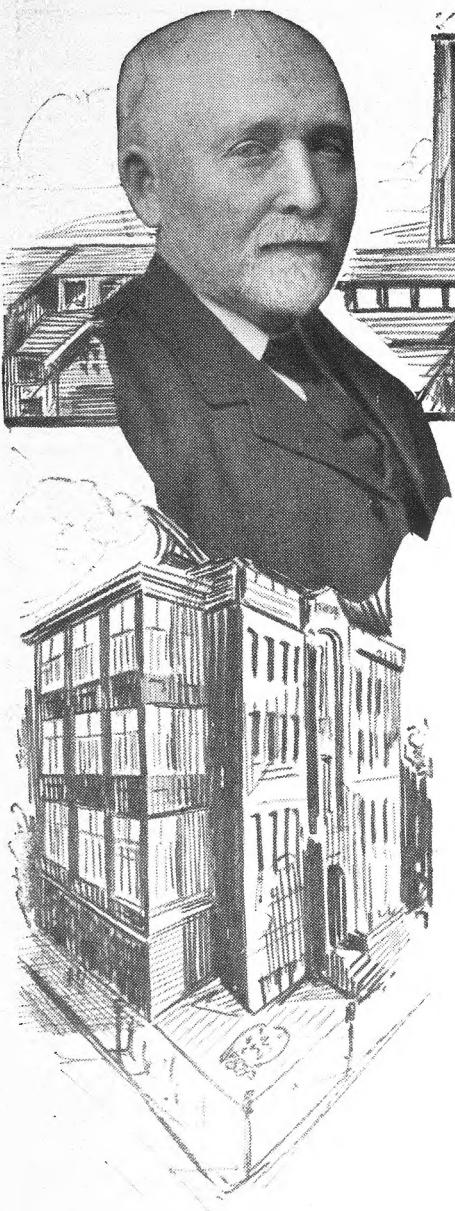
THE world to-day is sceptical. It demands evidence specific instances not general statements; facts not slogans; proof not proverbs.

¶ It has become proverbial—and with reason—that Canada is the Land of Opportunity. Here, then, are twelve actual life stories to substantiate the proverb; twelve brief biographies that read like romances yet which are the unvarnished chronicles of twelve men, most of whom are living to-day, who came, almost all of them, from the Mother Country, and with energy and determination, grit and courage—and practically no capital—won for themselves positions of independence and financial comfort, wide usefulness—success.

¶ They are the stories of twelve men who started at the bottom of the ladder and won to the highest rung; stories that bear out the words in Longfellow's "Psalm of Life" that—

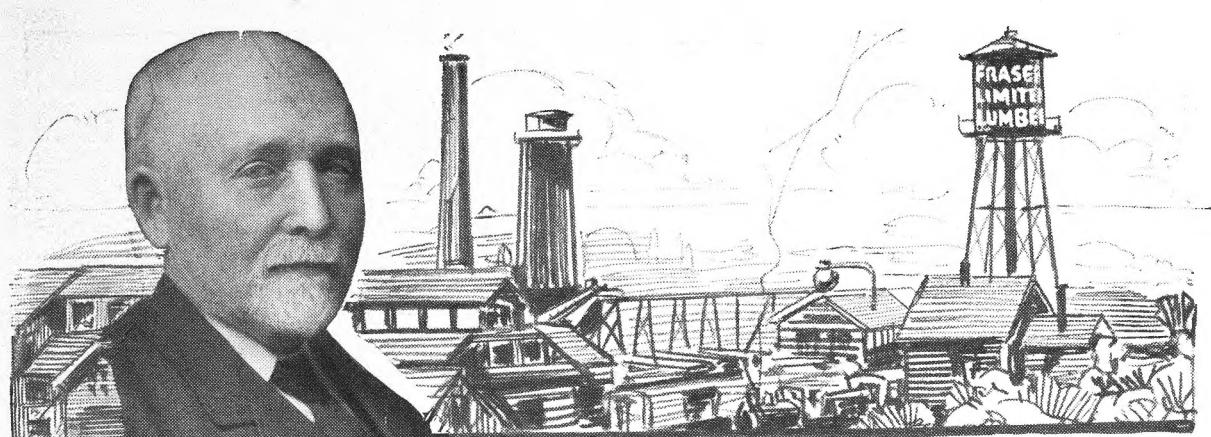
"Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time."

¶ And this is particularly so in Canada.



Fraser Memorial Hospital  
Fredericton, N.B.

*Under his will, Mr. Fraser donated \$300,000 to found a memorial hospital in Fredericton and left behind him a name—a success—which should be an inspiration to all. He was an honest, kindly, lovable character and to the end he gave to this country full credit for the opportunity it afforded him to achieve success.*

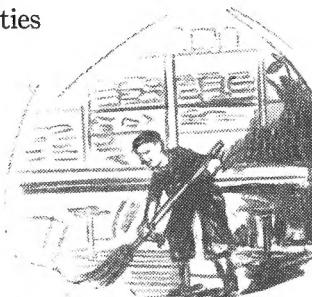


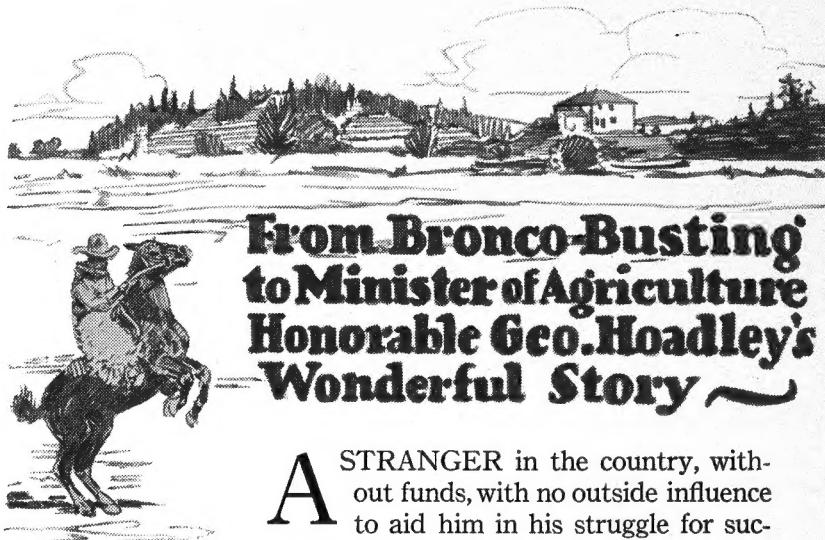
## Donald Fraser— from Immigrant Boy to Lumber Baron

LIKE a romance reads the career of the late Donald Fraser who came to New Brunswick in 1878 from Aberdeenshire, Scotland. After a rough, unpleasant voyage, he with the band of Scottish immigrants to which he belonged, landed at Fredericton, then but a small settlement. Aside from rugged health and strength and traditional courage, his capital was next to nil; he had confidence and independence, however, for he declined to accept the public bed provided for him in the Court House and spent almost his last penny in securing a room at the local inn. The first thing in the morning he got busy looking for work.

He found a job on the old New Brunswick Railway; with Scotch thrift, he saved his wages, and, having a slight knowledge of the lumber business, invested his interest in a tiny mill on Rivière du Chute. Here he boarded his men while his wife did the cooking and washing. Year by year, he managed to put aside a little, extended his business and grew to independence. When he passed away a short time ago, he was head of the Fraser Lumber Co., operated twenty large mills in New Brunswick and Quebec, two pulp mills in New Brunswick and controlled thousands of acres of valuable timber limits in these provinces.

Speaking of the opportunities in Canada for young men, Mr. Fraser said, "Any mon with grit an' brains can make a living and plenty of money in New Brunswick. I wouldna be afraid to start all over again."



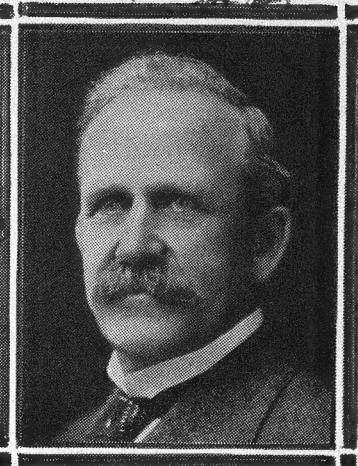


## From Bronco-Busting to Minister of Agriculture Honorable Geo. Hoadley's Wonderful Story ~

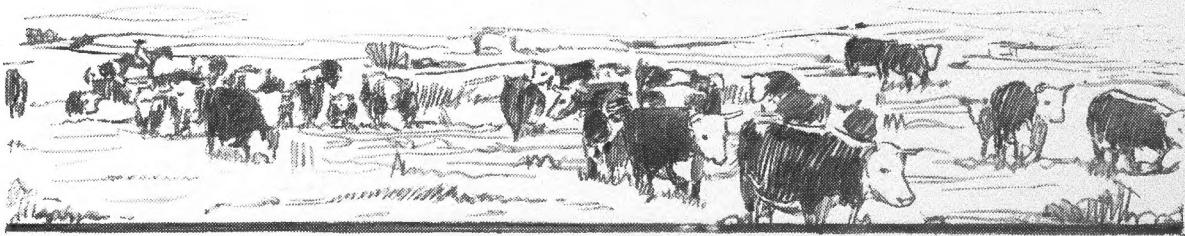
A STRANGER in the country, without funds, with no outside influence to aid him in his struggle for success, the Hon. George Hoadley of Okotoks has attained, since his arrival in 1891, independence and prominence and the responsible position of Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Alberta.

From a farm hand, with payment at first only in board and lodging, he became a renter; from renter a small owner; from small owner, proprietor of a successful horse ranch, and finally a minister of the Government. Mr. Hoadley reached Calgary straight from Cumberland. When he paid his board and breakfast he was bankrupt—bankrupt in all but hope and courage. He remembered that a man from Cumberland was farming in the foothills of the Rockies, and by one of those coincidences which help those in misfortune, fell in with a farmer who knew the Old Countryman and was on the point of driving past his farm. There he got work and for two months did the hardest kind of manual labor—digging an irrigation ditch—for which he received no wages. Later, in haying-time, he earned \$30 a month. With winter, wages again ceased, but he continued to work, cooking, chopping, building cowsheds, feeding cattle. Though disheartened, he never lost faith; he plugged ahead till success, which had persistently frowned and tested him in many ways, smiled upon him and he knew that the tide had turned.

Truly a remarkable record—one to inspire and encourage all young men. Thrift, energy, honesty and perseverance were the only influences behind him; he had had no previous farming experience; he had never worked with his hands before.



*Mr. Hoadley is an enthusiast over farming in Western Canada; "Settlers can make splendid homes," he says, "and will grow with the country. The climate freshens the blood, brightens the brain. The North American continent will be the home of the British race. We grow the best wheat in the world—wheat that is at a premium in all markets—this is the country where the finest children are born."*





## *Mayor* **E.L. Choquette's Experience** *Nelson's Chief Executive once a Mill Boy, then a Farmer, and Now—*

**M**AYOR CHOQUETTE is a native son, born in 1873 at St. Césaire, Quebec. His father was a farmer, times were hard, and there was a mortgage on the "Old Homestead." To pay off the debt they moved to the United States, where Ludger, then eight years old, found work in a cotton mill. Three years later they were back, young Choquette dividing his time between helping his father and attending school. Late hours and hard work for a lad—both muscles and brain.

At the age of seventeen he entered the service of the Central Vermont Railway as station agent at a salary of \$20.00 a month, and two years later, when his income had been raised to \$22.50, he married. Although it is said that two can live as cheaply as one, he soon found out that this was theory, and woke up to the fact that he had to do better.

Naturally, he went West, where Opportunity not only knocks at the front door, but bangs on the back one, the side one and all the windows as well. He chose British Columbia because he'd a brother there, in the bakery business; so he said "Good-bye" to all the home folks. But Nelson was only a village in those days and business was dull. Then he'd all the train whistles ringing in his head and longed for his old job. It was a long way back, however, and his senior partner—his wife—decided they'd stay where they were.

To-day he's Mayor of Nelson—that thriving, picturesque little town in the heart of the Kootenay mining and lumbering district. Mr. Choquette has been successful in doing something for his town and province. He has taken an active part in civic affairs and for three years was Chairman of the Finance Committee. Then he was chosen Chief Executive—a thing to be proud of; it indicates the broadmindedness of Nelson's citizens—that the people look to the man of ability and character regardless of nationality or creed.

*Into his private life, Mr. Choquette has carried the same high principles that characterize his business affairs, educating his children properly, and providing a comfortable and attractive home. He has made a success. He says—and it's the truth—that the opportunities in British Columbia were never greater than to-day.*



## A Canadian Farm Gave Premier Oliver His Start

THE HON. JOHN OLIVER, Premier and Minister of Railways of British Columbia, was born in Derbyshire, England, sixty-six years ago. At the age of twelve, after a very limited education, he was engaged in hauling ore from the mine at Hartington where his father was employed, supplementing his education and slender earnings by retailing eggs for neighboring farmers at Buxton Market. His hours of work were long—of rest, short.

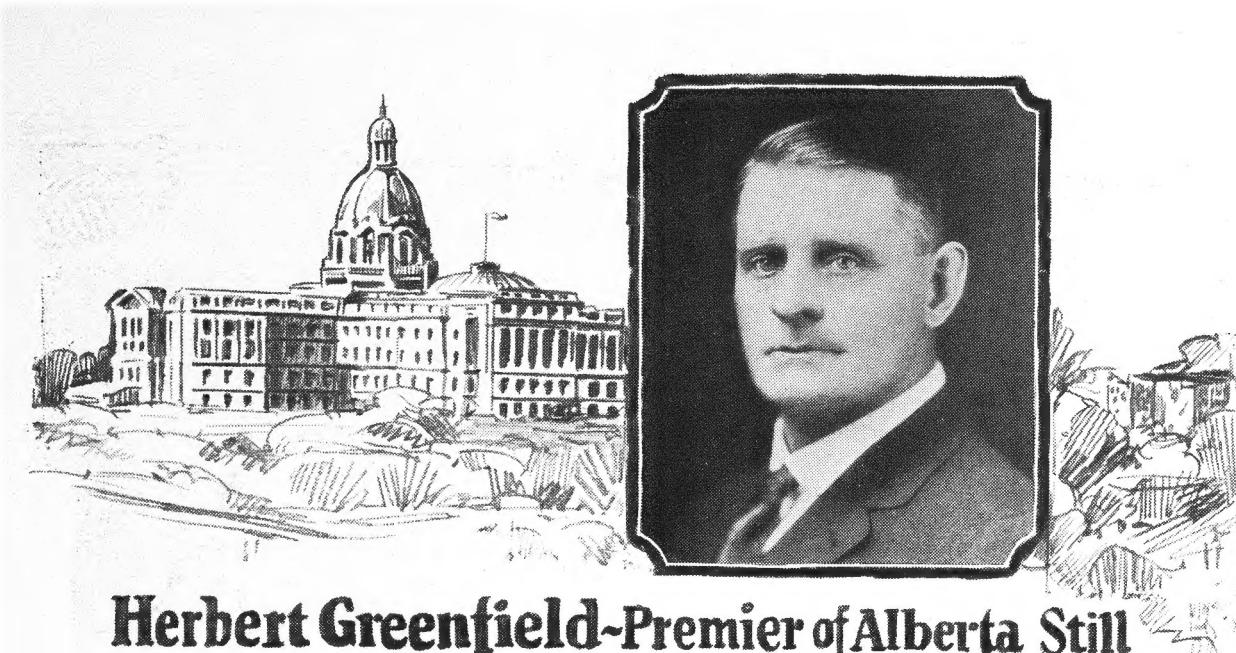
The closing down of the mines seemed to herald a black day for the Oliver family but was in reality the occurrence of that "tide which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." It turned the thoughts of the elder Oliver to opportunity elsewhere and he decided to emigrate to Canada. With his wife and children he located on a farm in Wellington County, Ontario. Here John, then a husky boy, put in seven years of farm work, toiling in the woods and absorbing knowledge of many trades that were later to stand him in good stead as Minister of Agriculture and Industries.

In 1877 John Oliver decided he could better his fortunes in the West and proceeded to British Columbia. His first job was swinging an axe on a construction gang for the C.P.R. in the Fraser Valley. Then he took up a homestead in the Municipality of Duncan, and for fifteen years fought encroachments of water and bad seasons until he had the land successfully dyked; and later became known as one of the most successful farmers in the province.

In 1886 he married and now has five sons and three daughters. To four of these boys he gave the advantages, which he, himself, was denied, of a university education; the fifth stuck to the land and manages the old homestead.



*Mr. Oliver's entry into public life was apparently not of his own seeking. He declined to run for election in 1896, but later importunities prevailed and he has since sat in both Federal and Provincial houses. He became provincial Minister of Railways and Agriculture in 1916, and in 1918, leader of the Liberal party. The death of Premier Brewster brought him to the highest provincial goal; he now presides over the destinies of one of the richest and most promising of Canadian provinces.*



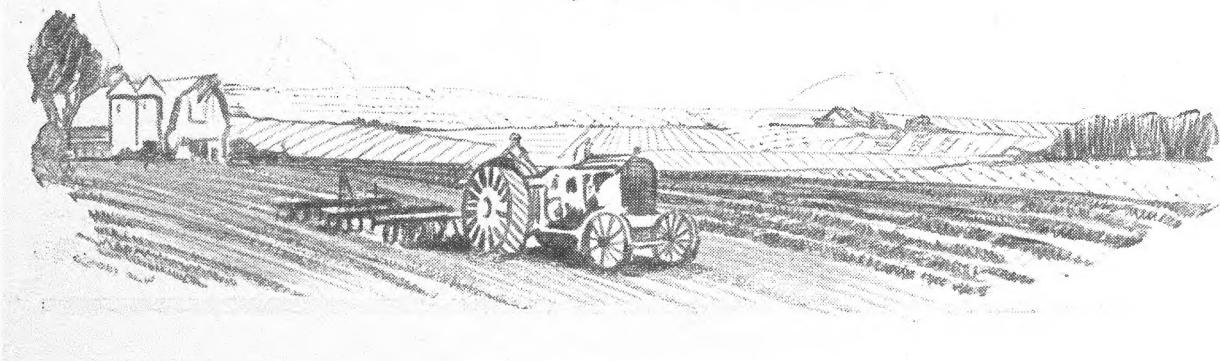
## Herbert Greenfield—Premier of Alberta Still Owns the Canadian Farm Which Gave Him His Start

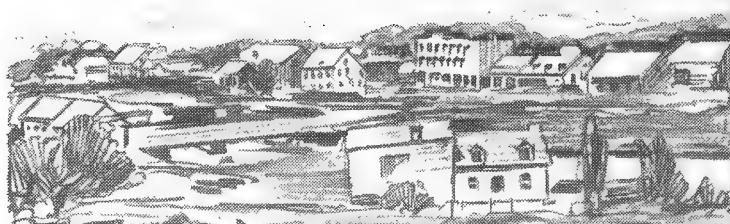
**H**ERBERT GREENFIELD Premier of Alberta, was born in Winchester, England, in 1869. There's nothing remarkable in his early history—just an average, bright, healthy boy with a good father and mother. There is no record of awe-inspiring, childhood genius nor can he remember being fired by any overpowering ambition.

At the age of twenty-three he decided to try his luck in Canada and hired out as a farm hand in Ontario. When he thought he had acquired sufficient capital and experience, Horace Greeley's advice to young men occurred to him: reading literature on the subject, he was enthralled with the glamour of the West and immediately filed on a homestead at Westlock, Alberta, north of Edmonton. There he settled down to hew his fortune out of Western land. It took courage

and enterprise, but he had both, for he had had experience. From time to time he increased his holding till it grew to some 600 acres. He both practiced and preached mixed farming.

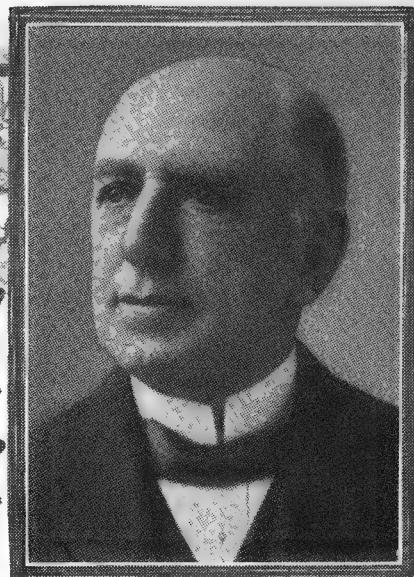
Then responsibilities, which have a way of falling on the shoulders of those best fitted for them, made a track to his door. He welcomed and entertained them. For five years he guided the destinies of the Local Municipal Council, and was for several years President of Provincial Association of Municipal Districts, finally graduating into a leader of the United Farmers' organization. When that party won the provincial elections in 1921, he was appointed its leader in the legislature, and being called by the Crown to form a government, became Premier—the highest political honor the province has to bestow.





## **How Ezra Butler Eddy found Success in Canada**

*An Outstanding Romance  
of Industrial Development-*



**B**ETWEEN the years 1851—when he came to Canada—and 1906—when he passed away—lies the fascinating story of the accomplishments and success of the late E. B. Eddy, manufacturer of matches, pulp, paper and their products.

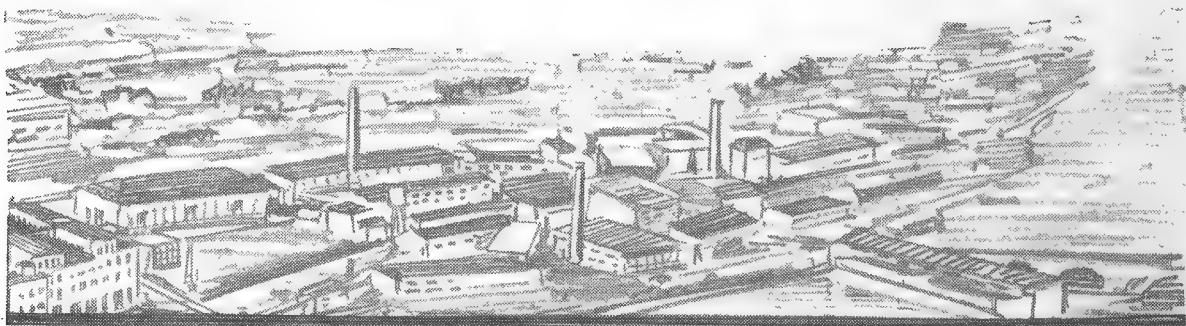
Born on a farm in Vermont, he began his business industrial career in the States. At the age of 24, with but a small capital which he had earned and saved, apprenticed to the retail trade in New York and buying and selling dairy products in Vermont, he became convinced that greater opportunity existed in Canada and turned his steps northward.

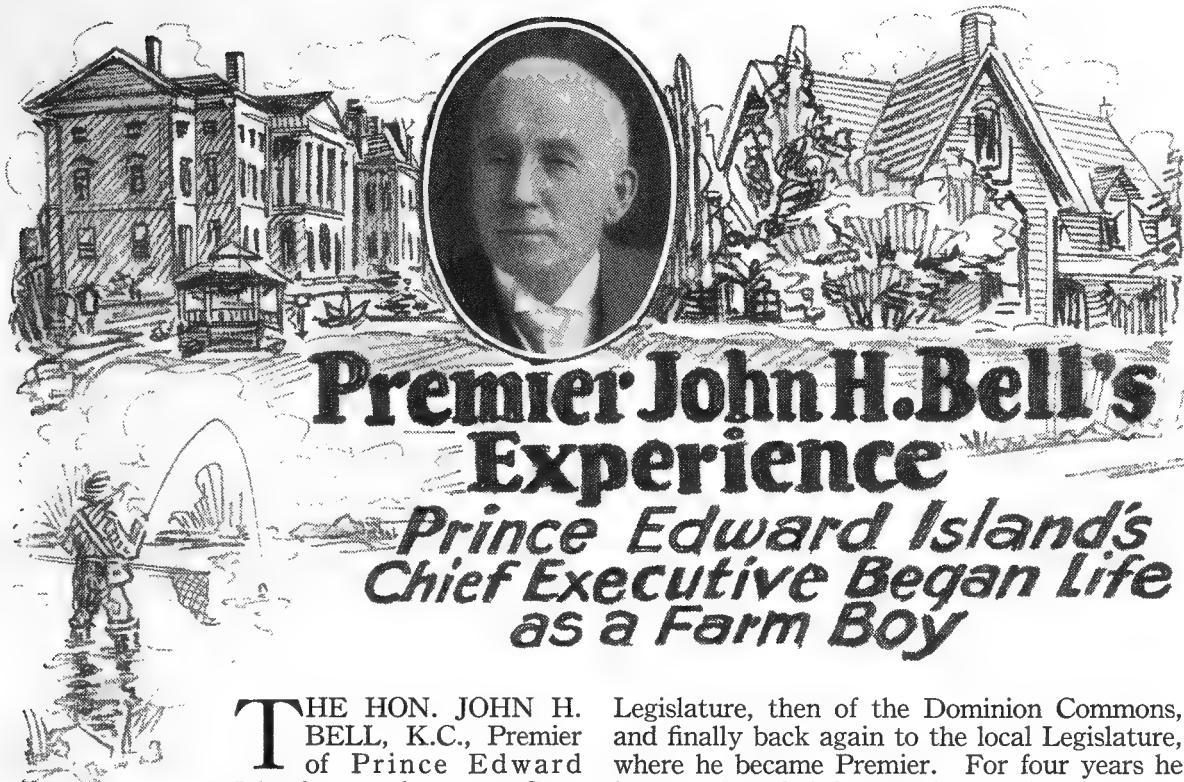
Fired with ambition and confident in his business ability, he rented a small shack on the banks of the Ottawa River just below the mighty Chaudiere Falls, and went to work. The shack in which he began to make matches—the old “telegraph” sulphur variety—at the rate of ten or less cases a day, peddling them himself, was the foundation stone of that vast organization, The E. B. Eddy Co., Ltd., the largest manufacturers of matches, paper bags, indurated fibreware, wood pulp and sulphite products in the British Empire. ¶

**M**R. EDDY has left behind him in the great factories crowding 100 acres of the river-side at Hull, a monument for all time. The Eddy brand is known not only where the Union Jack flies, but throughout the entire civilized world, and whether on reels of paper devoured by hungry printing presses, or on match boxes found in clubs, hotels, cottages or palaces—wherever men smoke tobacco or housewives light kitchen fires—the story of the growth of his undertakings is one of the romances of industrial expansion in America.

Through courage, enterprise, high sense of honor, unlimited capacity for work and kindly disposition, he turned to account the opportunity which he realized was before him. Many have called him blessed—a benefactor to Canada and Canadian industrial development.

Opportunity still exists in Canada, a future—alike for the agriculturist, the manufacturer and the business man—unsurpassed by that of any other country on the face of the globe to-day.





## Premier John H. Bell's Experience

*Prince Edward Island's  
Chief Executive Began Life  
as a Farm Boy*

THE HON. JOHN H. BELL, K.C., Premier of Prince Edward Island, was born at Cape Traverse seventy-six years ago, the son of a farmer. In his early days he lived and toiled on his father's farm, learned how to use the reaping hook, the scythe and other farm equipment and to feed and care for livestock. The hours of work were long, the work hard, but he did not complain; he demonstrated in no uncertain terms his ability to competently tackle whatever job was given to him, gaining daily in health and strength, and doubtless his present splendid health, at an advanced age, is due to that early period of arduous outdoor work in the delightful climate of the Island Province.

At the common school he learned the "three R's"; worked his way up to a scholarship at Prince of Wales College; taught country school; saved a little money; studied for the university, and without financial help took his B.A. and M.A. degrees—crowding four years of study into two. Then he studied law at Toronto, practised in the Island, in Manitoba and in Ontario, becoming first a member of the local

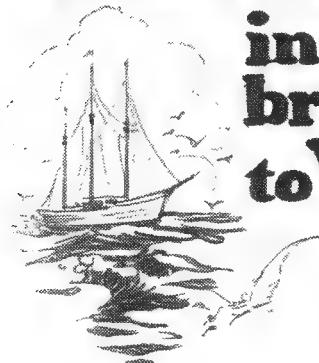
Legislature, then of the Dominion Commons, and finally back again to the local Legislature, where he became Premier. For four years he has acted as Chief Executive, during which he has improved the Island's educational facilities, bettered the road system, etc., and demonstrated how the finances of a province could be operated without incurring a deficit.

PREMIER BELL is regarded as an outstanding man. He works from 12 to 14 hours a day; keeps himself fit by regular outdoor exercise; is an enthusiastic fisherman and traveller; a genial and delightful companion. His eyesight is yet perfect—does not use spectacles, abhors intoxicants, does not smoke and has been never seriously ill in his life.

His career is a shining example to young men of what the poorest lad may accomplish if he is ambitious, if he is careful of his health and if he makes diligent use of the ordinary talents with which everyone is endowed. Premier Bell is a firm believer in Canada's future; it is his ambition to tell those in crowded places of the opportunities that exist in Canada and particularly in his own province of Prince Edward Island.



# Vision of a Great Fruit Garden in Nova Scotia brings Success to Wm. H. Chase



SO fertile are Canada's agricultural districts that many men scattered across this broad Dominion to-day have acquired—through its encouragement—independence and prosperity, power, success.

Take Wm. H. Chase for example—pioneer shipper of fruit in the Maritime Provinces. After a life devoted to the development of fruit growing as a paramount industry, he has lived to see his vision of a great fruit ranch in the Annapolis Valley come to reality and with it—for him—an outstanding reputation as an authority on fruit culture and marketing. Descended from an Empire Loyalist family whose forbears came from the north of England, Mr. Chase, at the age of 15, started business in a small store in Port Williams, Kings County. He traded in general farm produce, apples, potatoes, merchandise. The Dominion Atlantic Railway had not been constructed; few apples were grown in the Valley; transportation was by water.

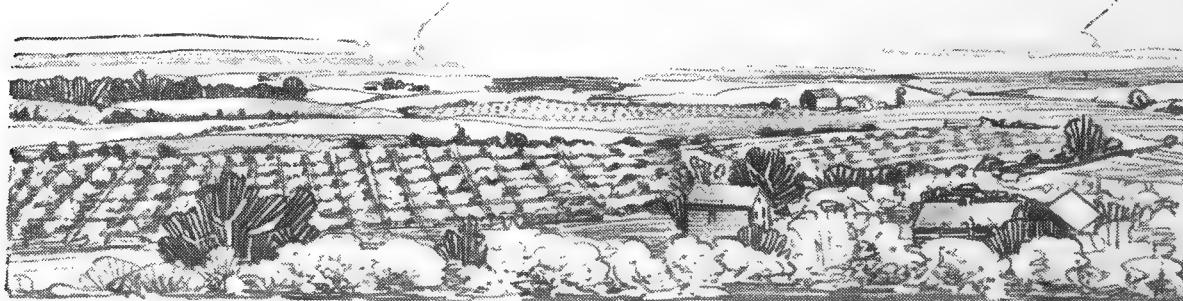
In 1870 he undertook to develop the potato trade by an experimental schooner shipment to the West Indies; it proved successful and induced him to extend operations. Five years later he was shipping apples to England, and having bought up all apples within the radius, found it necessary to store them. He accordingly built the first apple warehouse in Nova Scotia. Storage (frost-proof) capacity in the Valley to-day exceeds 1,000,000 bbls.

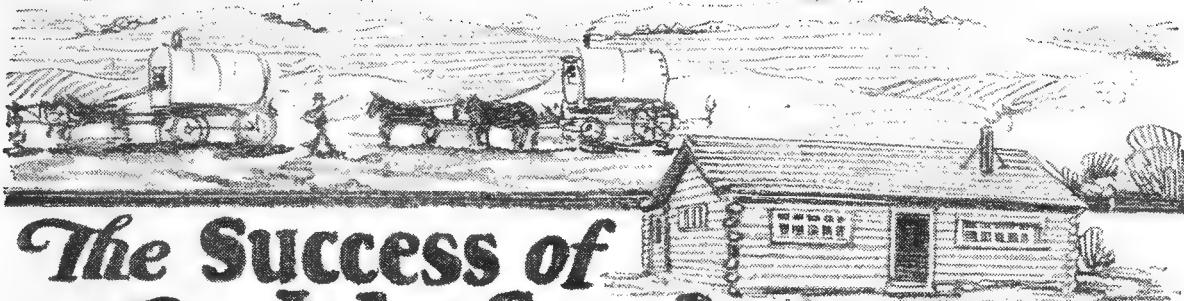
Ten years later, Mr. Chase entered into a contract with a New York dealer to supply all apples grown in Kings County, sending forward 30,000 bbls. Shipments to Great Britain grew until, by 1911, he exported 500,000 bbls. The Valley's annual yield has now passed the 2,000,000 bbl. mark; Mr. Chase estimates that in ten years this will exceed 3,000,000 bbls.

Mr. Chase is still active in fruit shipping; a director in various banking and industrial institutions; a large contributor to Victory Loans, educational and charitable organizations.



*Financial success has rewarded a busy life where thrift and strict attention to business have characterized every action. Mr. Chase might well say, as has Premier Dunning, of Saskatchewan, "I know of no place on the world's surface where a young man has a better chance to get on and make a home on the land than right here in the Annapolis Valley."*





## The Success of John Sanderson— Western Canada's First Homesteader:



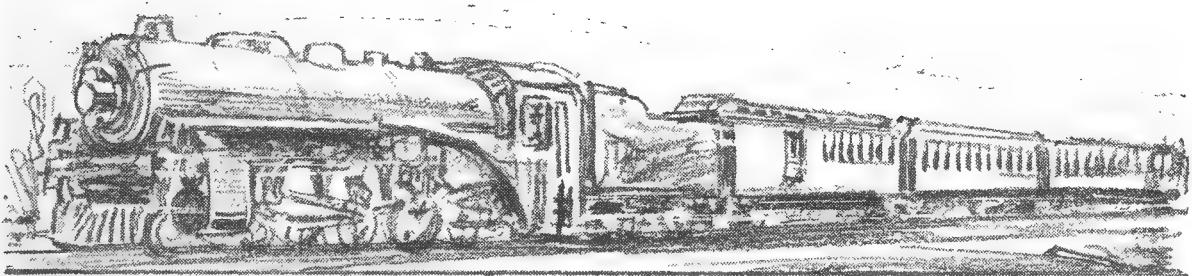
JOHN SANDERSON, Homesteader.

“NEVER for a moment have I regretted coming to Canada. I have had an active life and a rich one, such as one finds in breaking new land to service. What better thing could I have done? I farmed my land every year; 40 and 50 bushels to the acre was not uncommon. My farm, in its half-century of cultivation, has yielded as much money as the majority of gold mines. I never had but one crop failure; that was when a prairie fire burned me out.”

SO spake John Sanderson, pioneer farmer, who, on October 14, 1881, received the first, free patent for a Government Homestead in Western Canada. Born in Scotland, he was twenty-six when he resolved to seek fortune in Canada. Ontario, then the most westerly province, became his home, and for five years, until the Westward urge again assailed him, he applied himself to the study of Canadian farming; then, via the Great Lakes and a Red River cart, he moved West to what is now the site of Winnipeg. The thousand-mile plain which stretched between the Red River and the Rockies lay unbroken prairie

almost without population. No railway had been laid in the territory which to-day possesses over 14,000 miles; no elevator erected where now their capacity is 127,000,000 bushels; no telephone in a land which is now strung with 730,000 miles of wire. From a wealth of area he chose a farm near the present town of Portage la Prairie and made Homestead Entry No. 1, on July 2nd, 1872.

STRIKING in profile; tall, straight, lean, kindly of eye, long beard of the patriarch, his is a striking personality. He carries his eighty-two years with the step of youth; if he has known hardship, it has left neither mark on his face nor on the cheerfulness of his temperament. Though he has left the “Old Homestead” he still lives in the vicinity, making his home with his son. If any one hints that the days of opportunity are gone, tell him of John Sanderson; he has seen Western Canada develop into the second greatest wheat-producing area in the world; the Red River cart give way to such luxurious trains as the C.P.R. “Trans-Canada”; and a hardy, healthy people rise out of the vastness of the prairies.



# Charles A. Dunning

Premier of Saskatchewan, began his Canadian Career on a Homestead

PREMIER DUNNING of Saskatchewan came to Canada from Leicestershire in 1902. He was only seventeen years of age and sickly and thought it would be well to try another clime. He decided on Canada because, as he said, "he wanted to be where there was wood and water," and Canada has plenty of both.

When he landed in Canada his bankroll was close to an overdraft and his assets nil—with the exception of a heart beating with a strong determination to succeed and courage overplus. He found that the streets were not paved with gold, as he had been told, or even silver or copper. But he got a job.

At Yorkton, some 25 miles beyond the railway head, he sold his services to a farmer—and gave good value for small wage. When he knew the game a bit, he took up a homestead in North-East Saskatchewan. There he made a success, and through a short speech at a farmers' convention his marked ability brought him into the limelight. He became a director of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, then its secretary and finally its general manager. From then onward—much sought after in the political world—he became Premier in the spring of 1922.

To leave his home in England at seventeen—a poor boy in humble circumstances—and come to a new country with no definite idea of where he would locate, and at thirty-six to become Premier of one of Canada's most important provinces, is a rapid rise. There was no luck about it; it was hard work backed by grit and study and ambition. He demonstrated his fitness for the work in hand.

The career of Premier Dunning is the best possible proof that any young man may, with good reason, hope to do well in Canada. It presents him with opportunities which, if he is wise, he may, like C. A. Dunning, turn to his own advantage.





*The Wilson Brothers' small savings bought a Canadian farm; their courage and enterprise made a success of it; Saskatchewan's rarely failing crops did the rest. Canada's opportunity is open to every young ambitious man—the same chance the Wilsons had; a chance to be independent; to become wealthy; to be the pride of friends and families; to be pointed out as models of successful men. And John A. is the Liberal member for his Constituency.*



## **From Homestead to Model Farm in 18 Years**

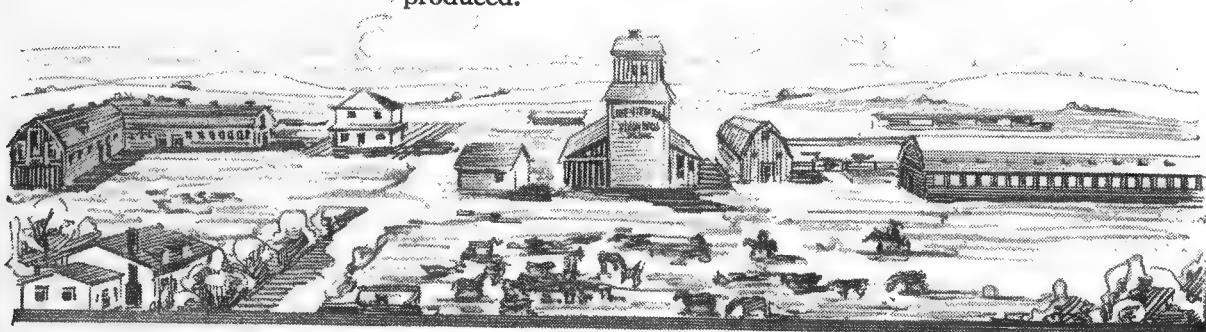
### *The Inspiring Success of the Wilson Brothers*

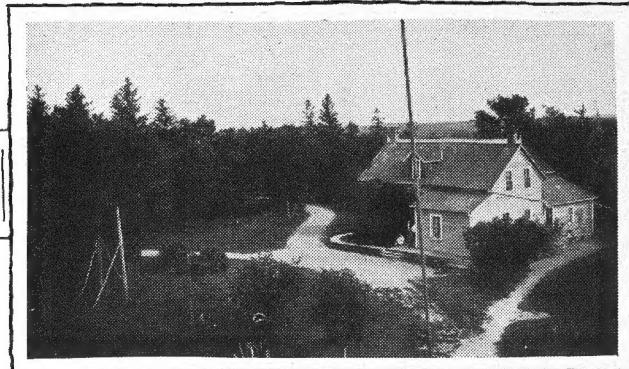
**T**HERE is no finer farm in all Saskatchewan's miles of teeming wheat lands than that of the Wilson Brothers at Harris. A little over eighteen years ago, John A., Thomas R. and J. A. B.—for there are three of them—pushed their way Westward from Ontario and drove homestead stakes into what they considered the finest piece of land in the province—stoneless, sloughless, chocolate loam—and with an eye to the future, bought adjoining land with initial payments of \$1.00 per acre.

A tent and a small mud barn sufficed to house man and beast, their first products being marketed at Saskatoon, 65 miles distant. There was no gossiping over the backyard fence with their nearest neighbor—35 miles away; no daily mail, telephone, telegraph or radio; motors and movies were dreams of the future.

Three years later, the Goose Lake line was completed to Zealandia and marketing was easier but the days were filled with hardship and monotony; only through the closest co-operation of all was the land held. Then the benefits of pioneer life began to be realized. More land was acquired; buildings erected; diversified methods adopted.

To-day—what a change—the Colonization Board of the Province points to "Lake View Farm" as a model one. It is said to be the largest in Saskatchewan; it contains three large barns; modern grain elevator; commodious bungalow; 2 cottages; several small sleeping houses and a general store, supplying to the help employed, men's furnishings at wholesale prices. There are 200 Clydesdales; 100 Shorthorn breeders; 200 feeders for the Spring market and a score of pure bred Tamworth hogs. Last year, 40,000 bushels of wheat and 30,000 bushels of oats were produced.





## Honored by Provincial Agricultural College

J. J. RING, of Manitoba, receives Diploma of Merit

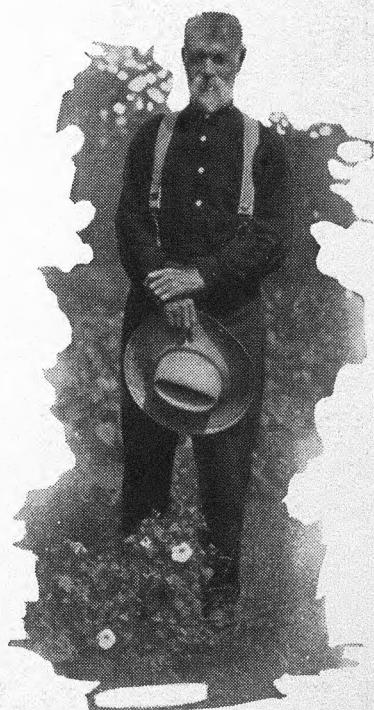
**A**MIDST the applause of the assembly, the elderly man with the silvery hair, beard and mustache and the network of prairie wrinkles radiating from his eyes—Mr. J. J. Ring of Crystal City—received, with a blush of modesty, the Diploma of Honor, recently presented to him by the Manitoba Agricultural College in recognition of his good farming methods, his encouragement of horticulture and the general beautification of his home.

Forty-four years have rolled by since Mr. Ring drove stakes into his Western Canadian farm. Born in Ireland in 1845, he settled in Huron County, Ont., but foresaw, at an early age, greater opportunity in the West, and followed the setting sun over the prairie trails to his present holding. There he erected a small shack, a sod barn and went to work. It was a hard row to hoe, but he did it with a will, and well. Beginning with a small tract of land, cultivated intensively, his progress was steady : bit by bit he acquired additional land until he owned and operated—and operates still—two full sections of land.

As a result his thoroughbred stock became amongst the finest in the West, his crops brought satisfactory returns, and his home—well, you just ought to see it. Surrounded by well-grown windbreaks, trim flower-beds and profitable vegetable gardens, it is cosiness and attractiveness exemplified.—Home, Sweet Home, indeed. He set out to build a home—a real home, a place to live in and to love as well as to farm, and he demonstrated that both are possible ; that charm and comfort can be created simultaneously with crop returns. Visitors are amazed at his wonderful growth of trees and the neatness and order ; it is generally admitted that much of the beauty and attractiveness of Crystal City is directly traceable to his efforts—that he has raised the standard of farming in his district.

Mr. Ring is as rich in children as in his home and farm—four daughters and three sons having graduated from the College which honored him. He is one of Crystal City's oldest and most respected citizens. In the declining years of his busy and successful life, he can accept whole-heartedly the "Well done !" of his friends and neighbors ; he can feel that his work has been of value to others—an inspiration. The independence and happiness that has come to him is the very highest award of life.

Truly, Western Canada is a good place to farm in.



THE Department of Colonization and Development has the following offices established in Canada, the United States, Great Britain and Europe, whose representatives, at any time, will be glad to furnish information regarding Canadian agricultural, industrial, and commercial enterprises.

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